

BRITISH PAPERS ASK SPY SWAP WITH SOVIETS

Theorize Russ Framed Business Man

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY
(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

LONDON, May 12—A swap of a British business man, Greville Wynne, sentenced yesterday in Moscow to eight years as a spy, for Keron Molody, a Russian spy jailed in London for 25 years two years ago, was discussed in Britain today.

"Whether or not Mr. Wynne was spied for Britain, the government should do the humane and sensible thing and arrange as soon as possible to exchange the convicted Russian spy for Mr. Wynne," the London Observer said.

The Sunday Telegraph predicted such a swap would be welcome in Moscow. It theorized that the Russians may have arrested Wynne, guilty or not, so they would have someone to trade for Molody.

May Have Framed Briton

Another London paper, The People, said foreign diplomats in Moscow generally assume a trade will be arranged soon.

Theories that Wynne may have been framed by the Russians to get a hostage for Molody were supported by a revelation today that Wynne had been invited by Hungarian officials to come to Budapest. The Hungarians reportedly held out the prospect of a lush contract for his business in arranging mobile international trade exhibitions.

A. J. Cox, a Birmingham engineer, said the approach to Wynne was made while he and Wynne were in Bucharest, Romania, last November. Wynne went at once to Budapest where he was arrested, apparently on Russian orders, and taken to Moscow.

Molody, who posed in London as Gordon Lonsdale, a Canadian engineer, was the central figure in one of Britain's most sensational spy cases. In the dock with him were an American, Morris and Lela Cohen, both refugees from the FBI, and two British employees at the underwater research station in Portland, Ethel Gee, and Mary Houghton.

The Americans were jailed for 20 years and Miss Gee and Houghton for 15 years.

Molody, a professional spy,

lived for several years as a small boy with an aunt in California. During World War II he was in the Soviet air force. Later, trained for the spy job, he was smuggled into Canada and assumed the identity of a Finnish-born Canadian who had been last heard from fighting for Finland in the Finnish-Russian war of 1940.

Claims Innocence

The real Lonsdale probably was captured by the Russians and died in a Russian prison

camp, enabling Molody, years later, to take on his identity, it was theorized here.

Molody went to prison claiming innocence and maintaining his disguise. Subsequent investigation positively identified him.

British hopes for a swap of Molody for Wynne were bolstered by last year's trade of the American U-2 pilot, Gary Powers, for an American-arrested Russian spy known as Col. Abel.

to Richard Helms
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